

In the claims

1. (Currently Amended) A system for processing voiced communications through a computer network, the system comprising:

(a) a switch associated with a telephone line,

wherein the switch comprises a trigger that is provisioned for the telephone line;

(b) a controller in communication with the switch via a first protocol; and

(c) a gateway in communication with the switch and the controller through communication links distinct from the computer network,

wherein the controller communicates over the communication link to the gateway such that the controller sends information in a second protocol that is different than the first protocol and the gateway receives the information from the controller in the second protocol and the gateway sends information in the second protocol to the controller and the controller receives the information in the second protocol,

wherein the gateway is connected to the computer network,

wherein the switch launches a query to the controller when an incoming communication from a calling party intended for the telephone line is detected by the trigger;

wherein the controller sends a call processing request to the gateway through one of the communication links when the controller receives the query;

wherein the controller sends an instruction to the switch to park the incoming communication at the gateway;

wherein the switch parks the communication at the gateway through one of the communication links in response to the instruction;

wherein the gateway communicates with the computer network to obtain a response to the query from the controller to process the communication; and

wherein the switch processes the incoming communication in accordance with the response.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the controller, the gateway, and the computer network communicate using a TCP/IP interface.

3. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein trigger is a termination attempt trigger.
4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the call processing request comprises one or more of an identity of the calling party, a telephone number of the calling party, and a plurality of call routing options.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the response is obtained from a database accessible via the computer network.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the telephone line is being used by a called party to maintain a communication session with the computer network.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the response is obtained from the called party during the communication session.
8. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the response is obtained from a computer of the called party during the communication session.
9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the telephone line belongs to a called party who maintains a communication session with the computer network using a dedicated communication link.
10. (Original) The system of claim 9, wherein the response is obtained from a database of the called party during the communication session.
11. (Previously Presented) A method for processing telephone communications intended for a telephone line of a called party using a computer network, the method comprising the steps of:
 - provisioning a trigger on the telephone line at a switch;
 - detecting an incoming call communication for the telephone line at the switch;
 - launching a query to a controller when the incoming communication is detected;

sending a call processing request to a gateway through a communication link distinct from the computer network when the query is received;

sending an instruction to the switch to park the incoming communication at the gateway;

parking the incoming communication at the gateway in response to the instruction;

providing the call processing request from the gateway to the computer network;

obtaining a response at the gateway for processing the communication from the computer network; and

processing the incoming communication at the switch in accordance with the response received by the gateway.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of contacting the called party via the computer network.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the call processing request comprises one or more of an identity of the calling party, a telephone number of the calling party, and a plurality of call routing options.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of selecting one of the plurality of call routing options, wherein the response comprises the selected call routing option.

15. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of accessing a database via the computer network.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising the step of obtaining the response from the database.

17. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of accessing a computer of the called party via the computer network.

18. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of obtaining the response from the computer.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of processing the incoming communication in accordance with a default treatment if the response failed to be obtained.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the default treatment is to terminate the incoming communication to the called party's voice mailbox.

21. (Previously Presented) A system for managing a telephone call from a caller that is intended for a telephone line of a subscriber who is associated with a computer network and a computer, the system comprising:

- (a) a service switching point in a public switched telephone network, wherein the service switching point comprises a trigger that is connected to the telephone line;
- (b) a service control point in communication with the service switching point; and
- (c) a gateway in communication with the service switching point

and the service control point through communication links distinct from the computer network, wherein the gateway is connected to the computer network,

wherein the trigger is activated when a communication session is established between the computer and the computer network;

wherein the service switching point launches a query to the service control point when an incoming call intended for the subscriber is detected by the trigger;

wherein the service control point sends a call processing request to the gateway through one of the communication links when the service control point receives the query;

wherein the service control point sends an instruction to the service switching point to park the incoming call at the gateway;

wherein the service switching point parks the call at the gateway through one of the communication links in response to the instruction;

wherein the gateway communicates with the computer via the computer network to obtain a response to the query from the service control point; and

wherein the service control point terminates the incoming call in accordance with the response.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the subscriber uses the telephone line to establish the communication session between the computer and the computer network.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the subscriber uses a communication link to establish the communication session between the computer and the computer network.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the communication link is a second telephone line.

25. (Original) The system of claim 23, wherein the communication link is one of an ISDN line, a DSL, a Ti line, and a T3 line.

26. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the response comprises an instruction to (a) end the communication session between the computer and the computer network, and (b) terminate the incoming call to the telephone line.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the trigger is a termination attempt trigger.

29. (Cancelled)

30. (Cancelled)

31. (Previously Presented) A system for managing a telephone call from a caller that is intended for a telephone line of a subscriber who is associated with a computer network, the system comprising:

- (a) a service switching point in a public switched telephone network, wherein the service switching point comprises a trigger that is provisioned for the telephone line;
- (b) a service control point in communication with the service switching point;
- (c) a gateway in communication with the service switching point and the service control point through communication links distinct from the computer network, wherein the gateway is connected to the computer network; and
- (d) a database associated with the computer network, wherein the database contains call routing instructions,

wherein the service switching point launches a query to the service control point when an incoming call intended for the subscriber is detected by the trigger;

wherein the service control point sends a call processing request to the gateway through one of the communication links when the service control point receives the query;

wherein the service control point sends an instruction to the service switching point to park the incoming call at the gateway;

wherein the service switching point parks the call at the gateway through one of the communication links in response to the instruction;

wherein the gateway communicates with the database via the computer network to obtain a response to the query from the database;

wherein the response comprises information from the database; and

wherein the service control point terminates the incoming call in accordance with the response.

32. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the call routing instructions are maintained by the subscriber.

33. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the subscriber uses a computer to establish the communication session with the computer network.
34. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the database is associated with the computer.
35. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the database is accessible to the subscriber via the computer.
36. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the trigger is activated when a communication session is established between the subscriber and the computer network.
37. (Previously Presented) A method for managing an incoming call communication intended for a telephone line of a subscriber who is associated with a computer network and a computer, the method comprising the steps of:
- establishing a communication session between the computer and the computer network using a communication link;
 - provisioning a trigger on the telephone line at a switch;
 - detecting the incoming communication at the switch;
 - launching a query to a controller;
 - sending a call processing request to a gateway over a communication link distinct from the computer network;
 - sending an instruction to the switch to park the communication at the gateway;
 - parking the communication at the gateway in response to the instruction;
 - providing the call processing request to the subscriber from the gateway via the computer network during the communication session;
 - formulating a response to the call processing request that is received by the gateway; and
 - completing the incoming communication in accordance with the response.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the communication link is the telephone line.

39. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the communication link is a second telephone line.

40. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the communication link is one of an ISDN line, a DSL, a Ti line, and a T3 line.

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 37, wherein the trigger is a termination attempt trigger.

43. (Cancelled)

44. (Cancelled)

45. (Original) The method of claim 37, further comprising the step of activating the trigger when a communication session is established between the computer and the computer network.

46. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the computer network is associated with a database, wherein the database comprising call routing instructions.

47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the call routing instructions are maintained by the subscriber.

48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the database is associated with the computer.

49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the database is accessible to the subscriber via the computer.